

DELIRIOUS WOMAN 'SPY' HOLDS KEY TO HALL MYSTERY, POLICE ASSERT

New Witnesses Sought To Smash Stevens Alibi

By LEO J. CASEY
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SOMERVILLE, N. J., Sept. 20.—The sensational Hall-Mills murder case investigation approached a head today, with one witness, said to hold the key to the entire affair, delirious and suffering from a nervous breakdown, and two detectives attempting to find two more witnesses who saw Henry Stevens, brother of Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall, in New Brunswick, N. J., on the night of the murder.

The investigators were confident that within twenty-four hours they would hear the truth of the slaying of the Rev. Edward Wheeler Hall and his inamorata, Mrs. Eleanor Mills, from the lips of Minna Clarke, the witness, who has collapsed, following a sensational seven and a half hour grilling by state police.



Willie Stevens Alexander Simpson

In the second instance, the breaking down of the alibi of Henry Stevens is regarded as another clear victory, for he believed it ironclad. He contended he had been fishing near his home at Lavallette, N. J.

Seen by Witness

Mrs. Mary Demarest testified before the grand jury she had seen him in New Brunswick early on the morning of September 15, 1922, about eight hours after the crime. Mrs. Demarest, cousin of Mrs. Clarke, has said the latter spied on Dr. Hall and Mrs. Mills.

As the case stands now, the state is contending that Henry Stevens fired the shots and that Willie Stevens, eccentric brother of Mrs. Hall, cut Mrs. Mills' throat with pruning shears.

Indications are that Special Prosecutor Alexander Simpson believes Mrs. Hall and Henry de la Bruyere Carpenter arrived on the scene to prevent bloodshed, but failed.

All Plead Not Guilty

The Stevens brothers are in Somerset county jail now with Carpenter. Mrs. Hall is at liberty in \$40,000 bail. All pleaded not guilty to murder indictments late Friday.

As the stage is set today for a denouement, Mrs. Clarke lies in her home, suffering greatly. Occasionally she asks for assistance, is led to the telephone and calls state troopers at Somerville, to tell them how ill she is.

Police say she fears further grilling.

Inspector John J. Underwood, of Jersey City, in charge of the investigation, waits in Somerville headquarters for the appearance of six witnesses, two of whom are so important to the future of Henry Stevens.

Seek New Testimony

Capt. Harry Walsh and Detective Richard Burke are busy trying to find the witnesses who saw Stevens. They will be brought direct to headquarters for questioning.

Another witness—a seventh—with whom Inspector Underwood would like to converse is Felix Demartini, in charge of the Hall private detectives during the original investigation. He has been mentioned many times in connection with the case, Senator Simpson in-

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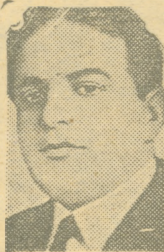
La Guardia Seized With 400 Strikers

Police officials today were wrestling with the problem of what to do with 400 striking garment workers rounded up by the police and which in batches of twenty-five were being given six-day sentences each by Magistrate Thomas H. McAndrews in Jefferson Market Court.

The Tombs is overcrowded, as is Jefferson Market. The facetious suggested that Madison Square Garden be leased and converted into a make-shift hoosegow.

"If the whole 400 are convicted during the day," said the arresting police, "we'll have to deal 'em like acorns under the various boroughs wherever there is a convenient call-boose."

Congressman F. H. La Guardia was gathered in the net. A police sergeant recognized him.



F. H. La Guardia

Insists on Arrest

"We're not arresting you, Congressman," he said.

"But I've already been arrested," was the reply.

"But you are at liberty to go," he was then assured.

"I insist on being kept under arrest," was the "Fighting Congressman's" retort and much against the wish of the police he made the trip to court.

There he demanded the right to take the witness stand, and stated he'd have a lot to tell about the high-handed methods of the police when he did so.

Attorneys in Row

Joseph Soloway, representing the garment workers, and Herman Bishel, in behalf of the strikers, added to the court drama by accusing each other of having "dough bags" which had been used to further their ends.

"I'm not interested in 'dough bags,'" said the court, "and there'll be no fines today. These twenty-five men before me are sentenced to six days' imprisonment each."

It was explained that they had not been guilty of picketing in violation of Supreme Court Judge Guy's injunction prohibiting the same, and that their only offense was in assembling in the garment area on this "Mass Monday" to discuss their interests.

Congressman La Guardia characterized the round-up as a violation of all rights and a travesty on justice. The police net extended from 14th to 42d Street and from 5th to 8th Avenue.

Lovers' Quarrel Jails Two On Child Abandonment Charge



Mae Dale, 28, and her common law husband, Wilbur Dale, 24, 350 11th St., Brooklyn, were held in \$1,000 bail each for the grand jury following their arraignment in 5th Avenue Court today, charged with abandoning their two children.

According to police, Dale, a B. M. T. motorman, left home Thursday, following a jealous quarrel, and that evening Mae took their children to Miss Florence Jackson, a boarder in the house, asking her to keep them while she "looked for Wilbur." She did not return.

Yesterday Dale gave himself up and aided detectives in locating his common law wife. A reconciliation followed.

Mae Dale, police declare, has never obtained a divorce from Michael Donahue of Orange, N. J., whom she left three years ago, and by whom she had three children.

Flay Miller's Fast O K in Metals Deal

The government scored an important point against Col. Thomas W. Miller, former alien property custodian, in the Daugherty-Miller conspiracy trial today, when Federal Judge Julian Mack admitted into evidence a document purporting to show negligence in passing the claim for return of \$7,000,000 stock of the American Metals Company to Richard Merton, German financier.

This document, obtained from files at Washington and identified by Paul Smith, a clerk, which contains important information about the nature of Merton's claim, was overlooked by George Williams, who was assigned by Miller to investigate the claim.

Judge Mack ruled that inasmuch as the document was in the files it was available to Col. Miller, the defendant, as well as to the man he assigned to the task.

This particular evidence, however the court ruled has no bearing on the case against Harry M. Daugherty, ex-attorney general, the second defendant. It was objected to by both Max D. Steuer,

counsel for Daugherty, and Col. William Rand for Miller.

With the trial entering its third week, Daugherty's position remains unchanged. No direct evidence has been offered by the government to



H. M. Daugherty Col. T. W. Miller

show that he was guilty of any wrongdoing or had any share in the \$441,000 which Merton paid to the late John T. King as commissions in the American Metals deal.

Earlier in the day Mr. Buckner introduced letters and documents designed to prove that the attorney general's office had placed unwavering trust in Merton.

Mr. Buckner tried to show that Merton's claim was not only rushed through Col. Miller's office, but also through that of the attorney general.

RADIO SENDS MESSAGES TO STRANDED FAMILIES

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 20 (By U. P.)—Hoping to get word to their families in the storm stricken area of Florida, more than 100 Floridians attending various conventions here sent messages from WPG, the municipal radio station, today.

'Cry Baby' Bandits Get Life Terms

Leo Hecker was sentenced to life imprisonment, and four other members of the so-called "cry baby" bandits were sentenced to serve from forty years to life imprisonment by County Judge Frank F. Adel in Long Island City, Queens, today. The sentences are to begin upon expiration of those imposed upon the men recently in Bronx county, when Hecker was sentenced to twenty-five years and each of the other four men to seventeen and one-half to thirty-five years each.

James J. O'Connor, convicted with the others on the same robbery charge, was to have been sentenced this morning, but he collapsed in the courtroom when he heard the other sentences imposed. He was taken back to the jail for a time.

All Heavily Guarded

The six men were convicted of the hold up of employees of the William F. Kenny Construction Company at Rawson Street and Queens Boulevard, Long Island City, on July 16 last, when \$2,470 was stolen from the paymaster there.

All of the convicted men appeared disheveled and were without collars when led into the courtroom, where relatives of all were among the spectators. Ten guards led them in and there were twenty other guards, deputy sheriffs, detectives and uniformed policemen in the courtroom.

O'Connor, regarded by the other five as a "squealer," was brought in separately by a detective.

Besides Hecker, the men sentenced are Bernard Frankel, Frank Kerrigan, Peter Mahoney, and Philip Oberst.

When sentence had been imposed the five men were led from the courtroom, placed in a police van, and started immediately for Sing Sing prison.

Mother Collapses

Frankel's mother emitted a piercing scream as her son was sentenced, and she cried: "Oh, God, help me—my boy, my boy! He's only a child, my poor boy." Attendants led her from the courtroom.

The outburst caused Miss Mary Kane of Far Rockaway, a witness in another case, who was in the courtroom, to faint. An ambulance surgeon from St. John's Hospital attended both women.

There were sighs and convulsive gasps among the spectators as the sentences were imposed.

U. S. Consul, Beaten By Mob Quits Rome

Rome, Sept. 20 (By U. P.)—Earl Brennan, American vice consul, who was attacked by an unidentified Italian youth during the excitement following the September 11 attempt to assassinate Premier Mussolini, has recovered from his injuries and left for home on vacation.

QUAKE OFF GREECE

FAENZA, ITALY, Sept. 20 (By U. P.)—Raffaele Bendandi's seismograph last night recorded a violent earthquake approximately 625 miles distant, presumably in the Ionian Sea.